

# ANNUAL REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,

*Washington, October 1, 1874.*

TO THE HONORABLE,

THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following statement of finances and general transactions of the Medical Department of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874:

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The funds subject to the requisitions of the Medical Bureau during the year ending June 30, 1874, were:

### I. Appropriation for the relief of Sick and discharged Soldiers, under the Act approved July 5, 1862—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$10,357 74
Disbursed during the year.....	848 53
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$9,509 21

### II. Appropriation under Act of March 3, 1869, to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to settle the accounts of disbursing officers—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$6,658 98
Transferred during the year.....	6,658 98

### III. Appropriation under Act of March 3, 1873, to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to settle the accounts of disbursing officers—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$275,000 00
Transferred during the year.....	66,592 51
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$208,407 49

IV. Appropriation for the Medical and Hospital Department of the Army for the time prior to July 1, 1870—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$723,779 58
Received from sales.....	5,817 47
Refundment made in Treasury settlement.....	1,299 00
	<hr/>
Disbursed during the year.....	\$730,896 05
	13,224 52
	<hr/>
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$717,671 53

V. Appropriation for the Medical and Hospital Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$30,272 87
Refundment made in Treasury settlement.....	2 48
	<hr/>
	\$30,275 35
Disbursed during the year.....	20,778 93
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Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$9,496 42

VI. Appropriation for the Medical and Hospital Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$7,003 88
Refundment made in Treasury settlement.....	5 78
	<hr/>
	\$7,009 66
Disbursed during the year.....	723 07
	<hr/>
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$6,286 59

VII. Appropriation for the Medical and Hospital Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873—

Balance remaining July 1, 1873.....	\$47,696 80
Received from sales.....	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$47,701 80
Disbursed during the year.....	28,391 54
	<hr/>
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$19,310 26

VIII. Appropriation for the Medical and Hospital Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874—

Appropriation under Act approved March 3, 1873.....	\$200,000 00
Disbursed during the year.....	175,839 08
	<hr/>
Balance June 30, 1874.....	\$24,160 92



HEALTH OF THE ARMY DURING THE FISCAL  
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1874.

Notwithstanding the occurrence of a few cases of yellow fever at Forts Jefferson and Barrancas during the summer of 1873, the Army enjoyed unusual good health during the year.

The monthly reports of sick and wounded received at this Office represent an average mean strength of twenty-five thousand six hundred and forty-seven (25,647) white, and two thousand four hundred and ninety-seven (2,497) colored troops.

Among the *white troops* the total number of cases of all kinds reported as taken on the sick list was forty-five thousand nine hundred and eleven (45,911), being at the rate of one thousand seven hundred and ninety (1,790) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength. (That is rather less than two entries on sick report during the year for each man.) Of this number thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven (38,827) cases, or one thousand five hundred and fourteen (1,514) per thousand (1,000) of strength were taken on sick report for disease, and seven thousand and eighty-four (7,084) cases, or two hundred and seventy-six (276) per thousand (1,000) of strength, for wounds, accidents, and injuries of all kinds.

The average number constantly on sick report during the year was one thousand one hundred and ninety (1,190) men, or forty-six (46) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength. Of these nine hundred and thirty-eight (938) men, or thirty-six (36) per thousand (1,000) of strength, were constantly under treatment for disease, and two hundred and fifty-two (252) men, or ten (10) per thousand (1,000) of strength, for wounds, accidents and injuries.

The total number of deaths reported from all causes was three hundred and forty-one (341), or thirteen (13) per thou-

sand (1,000) of mean strength. Of these two hundred and twenty-nine (229), or nine (9) per thousand (1,000) of strength, died of disease, and one hundred and twelve (112), or four (4) per thousand (1,000) of strength, of wounds, accidents and injuries. The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was one (1) to one hundred and thirty-five (135).

The total number of white soldiers reported to have been discharged the service on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability" was eight hundred and seventy-four (874), being at the rate of thirty-four (34) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength.

Among the *colored troops*, the total number of cases of all kinds reported was four thousand five hundred and thirty-five (4,535), being at the rate of one thousand eight hundred and sixteen (1,816) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength. Of these, three thousand eight hundred and forty-three (3,843) cases, or one thousand five hundred and thirty-nine (1,539) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength, were cases of disease, and six hundred and ninety-two (692) cases, or two hundred and seventy-seven (277) per thousand (1,000) of strength, were wounds, accidents and injuries.

The average number constantly on sick report was one hundred and thirty (130) men, or fifty-two (52) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength, of whom one hundred and one (101) men, or forty (40) per thousand (1,000), were under treatment for disease, and twenty-nine (29) men, or twelve (12) per thousand (1,000), for wounds, accidents and injuries.

The total number of deaths reported from all causes was thirty-seven (37), or fifteen (15) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength. Of these, twenty-five (25), or ten (10) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength, died of disease, and twelve (12), or five (5) per thousand (1,000), of wounds, accidents and injuries. The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was one (1) to one hundred and twenty-three (123).

The total number of colored soldiers reported to have been discharged on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability" was fifty-nine (59), or twenty-four (24) per thousand (1,000) of mean strength.

The large number of men reported to have been discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability is worthy of some remark.

Of the eight hundred and seventy-four (874) discharges of white soldiers, one hundred and thirty-eight (138) were on account of wounds, accidents and injuries, and seven hundred and thirty-six (736) on account of disease. Of the latter class chronic bronchitis and consumption caused one hundred and eighteen (118) discharges, rheumatism, seventy-four (74), constitutional syphilis, seventy-three (73), disease of the heart, sixty-eight (68), alcoholism, forty-six (46), hernia, thirty-five (35), epilepsy, twenty-nine (29), and diarrhœa and dysentery, twenty (20).

Of the fifty-nine (59) discharges of colored soldiers, eleven (11) were on account of wounds, accidents and injuries, and forty-eight (48) on account of disease. Of the latter class consumption caused five (5) discharges, rheumatism, three (3), constitutional syphilis, two (2), disease of the heart, seven (7), hernia, four (4), epilepsy, eight (8), and dysentery, one (1).

Adding together the deaths and discharges for disability, the total loss to the Army during the year was forty-seven (47) per thousand (1,000) of strength for the white, and thirty-nine (39) per thousand (1,000) for the colored troops. If these figures are compared with the reports of the previous five years, from July 1, 1868, to June 30, 1873, inclusive, it will be seen that the chief difference is a diminution in the losses of the colored troops last year.

The average losses of the Army by deaths and discharges for disability, during the five years referred to, have been forty-seven (47) per thousand (1,000) of strength for the white troops, and fifty-two (52) per thousand (1,000) for the colored. These losses have been distributed as follows: In the case of the white troops, deaths from disease, ten (10), deaths from wounds, accidents and injuries, five (5), discharges from disability, thirty-two (32) per thousand (1,000) of strength. In the case of the colored troops, deaths from



disease, fifteen (15), deaths from wounds, accidents and injuries, five (5), discharges from disability, thirty-two (32) per thousand (1,000) of strength.

It would appear therefore that the comparatively large loss of the Army from discharges on surgeon's certificate of disability is not an accident of the past year, but that it has been of constant occurrence for the last six years.

Large as these losses have been, however, we cannot consider them excessive, if we compare them with the losses from the same causes in the Army of Great Britain. It appears from the report of the Army Medical Department that the average losses by death and discharges for disability among the troops stationed in the United Kingdom during the ten years from 1861 to 1870 inclusive, was forty-three and twenty-one hundredths (43.21) per thousand (1,000) of strength, of which nine and forty-five hundredths (9.45) were deaths, and thirty-three and seventy-six hundredths (33.76) discharges; and although, as shown by the same reports, the ratio of discharges during the ten years was much smaller in the case of the troops serving in India, viz: nineteen (19) per thousand (1,000) of strength, yet this was balanced by a greater mortality, viz: twenty-one and three-tenths (21.3) for Bombay, twenty-two and sixty-two hundredths (22.62) for Madras, and twenty-nine and sixty-seven hundredths (29.67) for Bengal.

In the case of our own Army, we cannot fail to note the large proportion of both deaths and discharges due to wounds, accidents and injuries. The mortality from this class of causes is especially deserving of comment. For the last six years it has averaged about five (5) deaths per thousand (1,000) of strength for both white and colored troops, while by the English reports above referred to, it appears that during the six years from 1866 to 1871, inclusive, the mortality from all causes of the same class was only one (1) death per thousand (1,000) of strength for the troops serving in the United Kingdom, and two and thirty-seven hundredths (2.37) per thousand (1,000) for the troops serving in India.

Of the one hundred and twelve (112) deaths from wounds, accidents and injuries, reported among our white troops during the last fiscal year, twenty-three (23) were homieides, fourteen (14) suicides, and thirty (30) are reported to have been accidentally drowned.

*Homicide in the Army.*—The number of deaths above given represents a ratio of ninety (90) per hundred thousand (100,000) of strength. During the previous five years, from July 1, 1868, to June 30, 1873, inclusive, one hundred and twenty-one (121) homicides were reported among the white troops, the average annual ratio for that period being eighty-three (83) homicides per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

Among the colored troops the number of homieides reported during the last fiscal year was two (2), or eighty (80) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength; during the previous five years forty-two (42) homicides were reported among the colored troops, the average annual ratio for that period being two hundred and fifty-four (254) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

These figures are strikingly in excess of the proportion of homicides in the English Army. During the six years, from 1866 to 1871, inclusive, there were but nine (9) homicides reported among the troops serving in the United Kingdom, with a strength ranging between seventy and a hundred thousand men, the average annual ratio being only two (2) homicides per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength. Among the troops serving in India, with a strength ranging between fifty-three and fifty-nine thousand, the total number of homicides reported during the six years was eighteen (18,) the average annual ratio being rather more than five (5.33) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

*Suicide in the Army.*—Of the fourteen (14) suicides reported during the last fiscal year among the white troops, ten (10) were by gunshot, two (2) by drowning, and in two (2) the manner is not specified. The number corresponds to a ratio of fifty-four (54) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean



strength. During the previous five years ninety (90) suicides were reported among the white troops, the average annual ratio for the five years being sixty-three (63) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

Among the colored troops suicides have been much more infrequent, none having been reported during the last fiscal year. During the previous five years only four (4) suicides were reported among the colored troops; the average annual ratio for the five years being twenty-six (26) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

The ratios for the white troops are larger than those reported in the English Army for the troops serving in the United Kingdom, which, during the six years, from 1866 to 1871, inclusive, averaged annually thirty-six (36) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength; they even exceed the ratios reported during the same years for the troops serving in India, which averaged fifty-five (55) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

*Accidental Drowning in the Army.*—Of the thirty (30) white soldiers reported to have been accidentally drowned during the last fiscal year, five (5) were drowned by the upsetting of the government ferry-boat at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, April 20, 1874, and five (5) are reported to have been intoxicated when drowned. Among the remainder such entries as the following may be noted on the list of deaths: "Drowned while crossing the Platte river with his company;" "Drowned while attempting to cross the Colorado river;" "Drowned while attempting to cross the Gila river;" "Drowned while watering his horse in the Missouri river;" etc. The whole number represents a ratio of one hundred and seventeen (117) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength. During the previous five years one hundred and forty-five (145) white soldiers are reported to have been accidentally drowned; the average annual ratio for the five years being one hundred (100) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

Among the colored troops the number reported to have been accidentally drowned during the last fiscal year was six (6), being at the rate of two hundred and forty (240) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength. During the previous five years, however, only five (5) colored soldiers are reported to have been drowned; the average annual ratio for the five years being twenty-nine (29) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength.

The ratios above given for the white troops, and for the colored troops, last year, are very greatly in excess of those reported in the English Army, in which during the six years, from 1866 to 1871, inclusive, the average annual ratio of deaths by accidental drowning was twenty-eight (28) per hundred thousand (100,000) of mean strength for the troops serving in the United Kingdom, and forty (40) per hundred thousand (100,000) for the troops serving in India.

#### LIMITED OCCURRENCE OF YELLOW FEVER

##### AMONG THE TROOPS.

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During the summer of 1873 yellow fever appeared as an epidemic at various cities in the Southern States, assuming at some points a most malignant type, and proving exceedingly fatal; as for example at Memphis, Tennessee, and at Shreveport, Louisiana. That it did not prevail to a greater extent in the Army must be regarded to have been due chiefly to the hygienic precautions adopted, and especially to the prompt removal of the troops from those posts at which the disease was actually introduced from infected localities, or at which its introduction appeared to be imminent.

At Fort Jefferson, Florida, the disease made its appearance among the garrison (Company "M," 1st Artillery) during the latter part of August. So soon as its nature was fully recognized the greater portion of the command was removed, under charge of a non-commissioned officer, to Loggerhead

Key, two miles and a half distant, leaving behind, besides the sick with the medical officers and hospital attendants, a small detachment of men under Lieutenant James E. Bell, the commanding officer of the post.

During the first five days after this step was taken four of the men on Loggerhead Key were taken sick with yellow fever, and were promptly sent back to the Fort, after which this portion of the command remained free from the disease, while almost every man who remained at Fort Jefferson was attacked. The total number of cases among the troops was twenty-five (25), of whom thirteen (13) died; and there were besides several cases among citizens employés. Lieutenant Bell, who was the only commissioned officer at the post when the disease made its appearance, and who, when he sent the majority of the command to Loggerhead Key, remained behind and took an active part in the care of the sick, was attacked on the 8th of September, and died on the 11th, a victim to his conscientious ideas of duty.

The medical officers on duty at Fort Jefferson, when the epidemic made its appearance, were Acting Assistant Surgeons Joseph Y. Porter and F. J. Gould. So soon as the existence of the disease was known, Assistant Surgeon Harvey E. Brown was ordered to the post by the Medical Director, and arrived there September 6th. The manner in which these gentlemen discharged their duties is worthy of all praise, and the same may be said of Dr. Joseph Otto, of Key West, who, on the outbreak of the epidemic, volunteered his services, and hastened to Fort Jefferson, where he rendered valuable assistance.

At Key West, Florida, the disease having made its appearance in the harbor, and an unmistakable case having occurred in the town, the command at Key West Barracks (Cos. "E" and "I," 1st Artillery) was removed on the 16th of September to Camp Dallas, at the mouth of the Miami river, and escaped without a single case.

Similar good fortune attended the command at Mobile, Alabama, (Headquarters, Band, Staff, and Cos. "G" and "K,"

2d Infantry) which, so soon as cases of yellow fever were known to exist in the city, was removed, September 19th, to Mount Vernon Barracks.

At Fort Barrancas, Florida, even after the disease had become epidemic in the city of Pensacola, it was hoped that it might be excluded from the command (Cos. "A," "F" and "L," 1st Artillery) by strict non-intercourse. This, however, proved unavailing, and two cases of yellow fever having made their appearance in the garrison, the greater portion of the troops were removed to Santa Rosa Island, and went into camp near Fort Pickens, less than two miles distant, leaving a small detachment at Barrancas. No cases occurred at Santa Rosa Island, but several in the detachment which remained at Barrancas, the total number of cases among the enlisted men being twelve (12), with four (4) deaths. There were also six (6) cases and two (2) deaths at the post among the citizens attached to the command.

Great credit is due to the Post Surgeon at Fort Barrancas, Assistant Surgeon George M. Sternberg, for the faithful manner in which he discharged his duties during the epidemic, and to the commanding officer of the post, Major John M. Brannan of the 1st Artillery, for the hearty manner in which he coöperated with the Post Surgeon in his efforts to save the command from the disaster by which it was threatened.

#### WORK PERFORMED IN THE RECORD AND PENSION DIVISION.

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The number of official demands for information as to causes of death of deceased soldiers, and the hospital record of invalids, instead of diminishing, as anticipated, was actually greater than during the previous year. The total number of applications for such information during the fiscal year terminating June 30, 1873, was sixteen thousand six hundred and

one (16,601), of which one thousand five hundred and fifty-three (1,553) remained unanswered at the close of the year. From that time to June 30, 1874, seventeen thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven (17,957) new applications for information were recorded, of which eleven thousand four hundred and eighty-one (11,481) were from the Commissioner of Pensions, six thousand and sixty-seven (6,067) from the Adjutant General of the Army, and four hundred and nine (409) from miscellaneous sources. These new cases added to those remaining from the previous year made nineteen thousand five hundred and ten (19,510) cases to be disposed of during the last fiscal year.

Search was made, and replies furnished to the proper authorities, in eighteen thousand five hundred and thirty-five (18,535) of these cases, viz: eleven thousand eight hundred and eighty-four (11,884) to the Commissioner of Pensions, six thousand two hundred and forty-four (6,244) to the Adjutant General of the Army, and four hundred and seven (407) to miscellaneous applicants, leaving nine hundred and seventy-five (975) unsearched cases on hand on the 1st of July, 1874.

The total number of applications for the class of information referred to above received at this Office from the 1st of July, 1865, to the 30th of June, 1874, has been two hundred and fifty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven (259,757), of which two hundred and fifty-eight thousand seven hundred and eighty-two (258,782) have been finally disposed of. Of these terminated cases eighty-one thousand two hundred and eighty-four (81,284) were from the Adjutant General of the Army, one hundred and fifty-three thousand two hundred and seven (153,207) from the Commissioner of Pensions, eleven thousand nine hundred and seventy-two (11,972) from the Paymaster General, and twelve thousand three hundred and nineteen (12,319) from miscellaneous sources. The information thus furnished has been used for the most part in the adjustment of pension and other claims against the government, and has served both as an aid in



establishing the merit of worthy claims, and as a protection to the government against fraudulent ones.

It is to be remarked, not only that the number of these cases received during the last fiscal year was larger than the number received during the previous year, but that of late a considerable proportion of the applications received have been unusually difficult to search, partly because of the larger number of cases in which it is necessary to trace the soldier through several hospitals, and partly on account of the increasing frequency with which the data furnished by claimants prove to be incomplete or inaccurate. The latter source of trouble grows greater, even in just claims, as time elapses since the close of the war.

#### DIVISION OF SURGICAL RECORDS.

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According to the annual report for the year ending June 30, 1873, there were entered on the registers of this Division, up to that date, two hundred and nineteen thousand eight hundred and seventy-three (219,873) cases of wounds and injuries, and forty thousand and thirty-four (40,034) histories of surgical operations. During the year ending June 30, 1874, two thousand six hundred and twenty-four (2,624) surgical cases and ninety-two (92) histories of operations were added, making an aggregate of two hundred and twenty-two thousand four hundred and ninety-seven (222,497) surgical cases, and of forty thousand one hundred and twenty-six (40,126) operations—a grand total of two hundred and sixty-two thousand six hundred and twenty-three (262,623) histories at present on the records of this Division.

In eleven thousand two hundred and seventy-three (11,273) cases, additional information was obtained, and results were determined from the records on file in this Office, and in three thousand five hundred and seventy-three (3,573) cases, the remote results of wounds and injuries were ascertained from the records of the Pension Office.



Six thousand and forty-five (6,045) reports, letters and endorsements were received, indexed and filed.

The data for the Descriptive Anatomical Catalogue have been perfected. The publication of this work, recommended by the Secretary of War, and by the House of Representatives, was not acted on by the Senate. The materials are so arranged that the work can be speedily completed when authority to print is granted, and I would respectfully renew the recommendation made in my previous annual reports, that authority be given to publish one thousand copies of the work.\*

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\* The following report, No. 56, from the Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives, dated February 4, 1873, sets forth more fully the reasons for the above request.

[ Report to accompany bill H. R. 3453. ]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred H. R. 3453, entitled "A bill to provide for the printing at the Government Printing-Office of one thousand copies of the Descriptive Anatomical Catalogue of the Army Medical Museum," have had the same under consideration, and submit as a statement of the facts in the case, and as reasons for the passage of the accompanying bill, the following communications from the Surgeon-General, which are made a part hereof:

WAR DEPARTMENT, SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, January 18, 1873.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, asking for a "statement of the facts going to show the importance of printing the Descriptive Anatomical Catalogue of the Army Medical Museum," contemplated in the bill H. R. 3453, I have the honor to represent that it is mainly through the printed catalogues that the collections of the museum are made available to scientific students, the majority of whom cannot personally examine them. Catalogues of the surgical, medical, and microscopical sections have been already printed, and their distribution has resulted, not only in widely diffusing a knowledge of the contents of the museum relative to those subjects, but in large voluntary contributions to the collections. These have now attained such importance, that few recent works on military medicine, surgery, and hygiene have omitted to refer largely to the rich and reliable stores of information gathered within the walls of the museum.

It is now proposed to print an *anatomical* catalogue, in which the most important feature will be the craniological chapter. The measurement and comparison of human skulls is an interesting and difficult branch of the natural history of man, which has of late received much attention in the scientific world. It is a study that can only be pursued by a few anatomists, having access to large collections of crania, and the requisite experience and skill to measure accurately. Craniology, established as a science by Blumenbach and Camper, was prosecuted in this country by Morton with great success. His work was published by subscription. The medical officers of the Army have collected a much larger series of American skulls

## ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM.

One thousand one hundred and eighty-five (1,185) specimens were added to the various sections.

*Surgical Section.*

Specimens in the Museum	July 1, 1873	. . . .	6,272
" " "	July 1, 1874	. . . .	6,447
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Increase	. . . .		175

*Medical Section.*

Specimens in the Museum	July 1, 1873	. . . .	1,168
" " "	July 1, 1874	. . . .	1,225
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Increase	. . . .		57

*Microscopical Section.*

Specimens in the Museum	July 1, 1873	. . . .	6,095
" " "	July 1, 1874	. . . .	6,738
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Increase	. . . .		643

than have ever before been available for study. The collection embraces many ancient crania from caves and tumuli, from Greenland and Alaska to Florida and Arizona, and specimens from the majority of the existing tribes of Indians, and of the extinct tribes of the historic period. These, as well as a sufficient series of skulls of the white and black races, have been carefully measured and figured by orthographic drawings, so that the dimensions may be verified. Anthropologists in different parts of the world are anxious for the data thus accumulated for comparison with similar data published in Sweden, Russia, Germany, Italy, France, and England. The French government, through its legation here, after making repeated applications for the tables of cranial measurements, employed an artist to make casts and take photographs of a series of typical skulls; and a professor of Bonn made the study of the collection the object of a trip across the Atlantic. I mention these facts as an indication of the importance of the collection in the eyes of foreign savants; but it is especially with a view of enabling scientific students in our own country to utilize the collection that I urge the publication of this catalogue.

In addition to the unique collection of crania, the anatomical cabinet possesses a good series of preparations and drawings of the various organs of the body, properly classified and catalogued. To render these accessible to students a printed catalogue is simply a necessity.

*Anatomical Section.*

Specimens in the Museum July 1, 1873	. . . .	995
“ “ “ July 1, 1874	. . . .	1,119
Increase	. . . .	124

*Section of Comparative Anatomy.*

Specimens in the Museum July 1, 1873	. . . .	1,270
“ “ “ July 1, 1874	. . . .	1,404
Increase	. . . .	134

*Miscellaneous Section.*

Specimens in the Museum July 1, 1873	. . . .	134
Received 92; transferred 40.		
Specimens in the Museum July 1, 1874	. . . .	186
Increase	. . . .	52

Twenty (20) specimens were donated to the Smithsonian Institution, nineteen (19) to the Peabody Museum, and one

I take what I trust may be esteemed a pardonable pride in the reflection that this important collection has been accumulated through the almost unaided zeal and industry of the medical officers of the Army, and, I was about to say, entirely without cost to the Government. It is true, however, that a few preparations have been obtained by purchase, but by far the largest proportion have been collected by the medical officers, or procured in exchange for objects of ethnological interest collected by them.

If the members of the committee will contrast the results obtained with the small annual appropriation of \$5,000 for the Army Medical Museum with the condition of foreign national museums, and the large sums annually voted them, the progress here accomplished would be appreciated, the results being possible only because the labor has been performed, as incidental to their legitimate duties, by those already in the Government service.

I have restricted myself to a concise statement of the importance of the proposed catalogue. Should the members of the committee desire more details, I would respectfully suggest that Assistant Surgeon Otis, who is familiar with them, should be granted a hearing before the committee.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. K. BARNES,

*Surgeon-General, United States Army.*

Hon. JOHN COBURN,

*Chairman Committee on Military Affairs.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, D. C., January 24, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following estimate of cost of printing and binding catalogue of the anatomical section of the Army Medical Museum, viz:

(1) to the Agricultural Department, and five hundred and ten (510) photographs were presented to scientific men and institutions. Two hundred and sixty-four (264) calculi were analyzed and the results of the analyses recorded. Eight hundred and forty-seven (847) erania were measured, and the measurements recorded.

The Army Medical Museum was visited during the year ending June 30, 1874, by twenty-six thousand and seventy-one (26,071) persons.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Of the Second Part of the Medical and Surgical History of the War, seven hundred (700) pages have been printed, and nearly all the plates have been prepared.

In accordance with the Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, and for other purposes, approved June 23, 1874, proposals have been obtained for preparing the plates for a new edition of five thousand (5,000) copies, which have been approved by the Hon. Secretary of War, and the work is now in progress. That part of the work now going through the press is being stereotyped. Legislation is neces-

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For 1,000 copies:	
Plates and wood-cuts.....	\$20,000
Paper, composition, and printing.....	2,700
Binding, in cloth .....	1,000
Binding, in leather.....	2,500
For 5,000 copies the cost will be:	
For Plates .....	\$38,000
Paper, composition, and printing.....	7,500
Binding, in cloth .....	5,000
Binding, in leather.....	12,500
Total cost, 1,000 copies, in cloth .....	23,700
Total cost, 5,000 copies, in cloth .....	50,500

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. K. BARNES.

*Surgeon-General, United States Army.*

Hon. JOHN COBURN,

*Chairman Military Committee House of Representatives.*

The committee recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.

sary to authorize the Congressional Printer to print an additional edition of five thousand (5,000) copies from the commencement of the work, and I respectfully recommend that such authority be given.

The Library of this Office continues to increase in size and usefulness. About five thousand (5,000) volumes have been added to it during the past year. The printing of the Alphabetical Catalogue of Authors has been completed, and a Subject Catalogue is now in course of preparation.

In accordance with the Joint Resolution of Congress, approved March 25, 1874, Assistant Surgeon Ely McClellan, U. S. A., was detailed to inquire into, and report upon, the causes of epidemic cholera, and was instructed to visit the towns and localities in the United States at which cholera prevailed during the year 1873. His report is now in course of preparation and will be in readiness by the time of meeting of Congress.

In the reorganization of the force of this Office by the Act making appropriations for the legislative, executive and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, and for other purposes, approved June 20, 1874, no provision was made for the continued employment of the chemist and his assistant. I have in consequence been compelled to suspend work in the laboratory, thus depriving this department of the protection and advantage of careful and reliable analysis of drugs and medicines, and making it impossible to furnish, as heretofore, other Departments of the Government with results of examinations for detection of adulterations, or establishment of values, for guidance in selection and purchase.

During the month of June, 1874, an arrangement was made with the Chief Signal Officer of the Army by which the monthly reports of the Meteorological observations made at the several military posts by the Medical Officers of the Army were to be forwarded to him, hereafter, as received at this Office. This proposition was made in the belief that these observations possess considerable value, and that their utility

will be increased by studying them in connection with the observations made under the auspices of the Signal Corps.

The requirements of the Army as to Medical Officers is shown by the following statement:

Number of permanent posts . . . . .	174
“ “ temporary posts and sub-stations . . . . .	36
Total . . . . .	210

Number of Medical Officers on special duty as Medical Directors of Departments; at Soldiers' Home; preparing reports ordered by Congress; in the Surgeon General's Office; and on Medical Examining Boards now in session . . . . . 23

Number of Contract Surgeons on duty as Attending Surgeons at Recruiting Stations and in cities not reckoned as Posts . . . . . 14

Number of Posts at which two or more Medical Officers are required\* . . . . . 45

Number of Military Expeditions during the current year . . . . . 13

Number of Scouting Parties . . . . . 67

(With the thirteen (13) expeditions, twenty-five (25) Medical Officers were required; with the sixty-seven (67) scouting parties forty (40) medical officers were on duty.

The average number of Medical Officers absent on leave and on account of sickness is twelve (12).

To meet the above demands there are now in service fifty-one (51) Surgeons, ninety-four (94) Assistant Surgeons, and one hundred and eighty-seven (187) Contract Surgeons, in all three hundred and thirty-two (332).

The Act reorganizing the Staff Corps of the Army, approved June 23, 1874, while allowing appointments of Assistant Surgeons in the Army, cuts off two of the five Lieutenant Colonels and ten of the sixty Majors, thus pre-

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\* The number of Medical Officers required at a Post is fixed by the Department Commander.



venting any promotion for several years to come. This is much to be regretted, as it places the officers of the Medical Corps below those of all the other Staff Corps and of the line of the Army as regards promotion, which is felt by them as a hardship and injustice, the results of which cannot fail to be injurious to the best interests of the service.

The clause of the same act which specifies that "the number of contract surgeons shall be limited to seventy-five on or before the first day of January, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five, and thereafter no more shall be employed," must result either in actual suffering for want of medical attendance, or in largely increased expense to the government. The number of candidates presenting themselves before the Examining Boards for the position of Assistant Surgeon is not large and probably not more than twenty-five will pass the examination by the first of January, to take the place of over one hundred (100) contract surgeons to be discharged under the above law. The only resource will be to employ local physicians without contracts and pay them the ordinary fees of private physicians—which past experience has shown will cost much more and be less satisfactory than the present system.

At date of last report there existed sixty-four (64) vacancies in the Medical Corps, viz: two (2) Assistant Medical Purveyors, five (5) Surgeons, fifty-six (56) Assistant Surgeons and one (1) Medical Storekeeper.

During the past year three (3) Surgeons and one (1) Surgeon (retired) have died, and one (1) Surgeon has resigned: the vacancies in the grades of Assistant Medical Purveyor, Surgeon and Medical Storekeeper were abolished by Act of Congress Approved June 23, 1874; leaving at present fifty-six (56) vacancies in the grade of Assistant Surgeon.

J. K. BARNES,  
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